

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for the production of an ether (poly)isocyanate from an ether (poly)amine comprising reacting

a) an ether (poly)amine

5 with at least a stoichiometric amount (based on the number of primary amine groups present in a)) of

b) phosgene or a compound which generates phosgene under the reaction conditions

10 in the vapor phase at a temperature of from about 50 to about 800°C which temperature is close to or above the boiling point of a) under applied pressure.

2. The process of Claim 1 in which ether (poly)amine a) is represented by the formula



15 in which

X

represents H, NH_2 or $C(R^3)_{4-n}$,

R^1 , R^2 and R^3

each represents an optionally branched, an optionally substituted, or an optionally heteroatom-containing C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_3 - C_{24} cycloalkyl, C_7 - C_{24} aralkyl, or a C_6 - C_{24} aryl radical, provided that R^1 may also represent a direct bond of X to the ether oxygen atom bonded to R^2 ,

20 and

25

n

represents 1, 2 or 3.

3. The ether (poly)isocyanates selected from 2-(2)isocyanatopropoxy)-1-propyl isocyanate, 1,1'-oxydi-2-propyl isocyanate, 2,2'-oxydi-1-propyl isocyanate and mixtures thereof.

4. A process for the production of a polyurethane comprising reacting the ether (poly)isocyanate produced in accordance with Claim 1 with an isocyanate-reactive material.

10/27